Fire Safety

At work and home

Fire Fact:

A fire department responds to a fire in the United States every 17.3 seconds.

Fire in the U.S.A.

- **Death rate from fires is 3 times higher than other developed countries (2.1 per 100,000)**
- **In 2005 - 3,030 deaths and 13,825 injuries.**
- **396,000 residential fires in 2005 in the U.S.**

Fire in the U.S.A.

- U.S. has more smoke detectors, sprinkler systems, and fire fighters than any other country
- Smoking is the leading cause of home fire deaths overall, but in the winter months of December, January and February, smoking and heating equipment cause similar shares of the fire deaths.
- Cooking is the leading cause of home fires and home fire injuries.

National Fire Statistics

- About 70% of all structure fires occur in the home.
- About 80% of all fire deaths occur in the home.
- One fourth of home fires occur between 10:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m. yet account for one half of all home fire deaths.

Fire Deaths

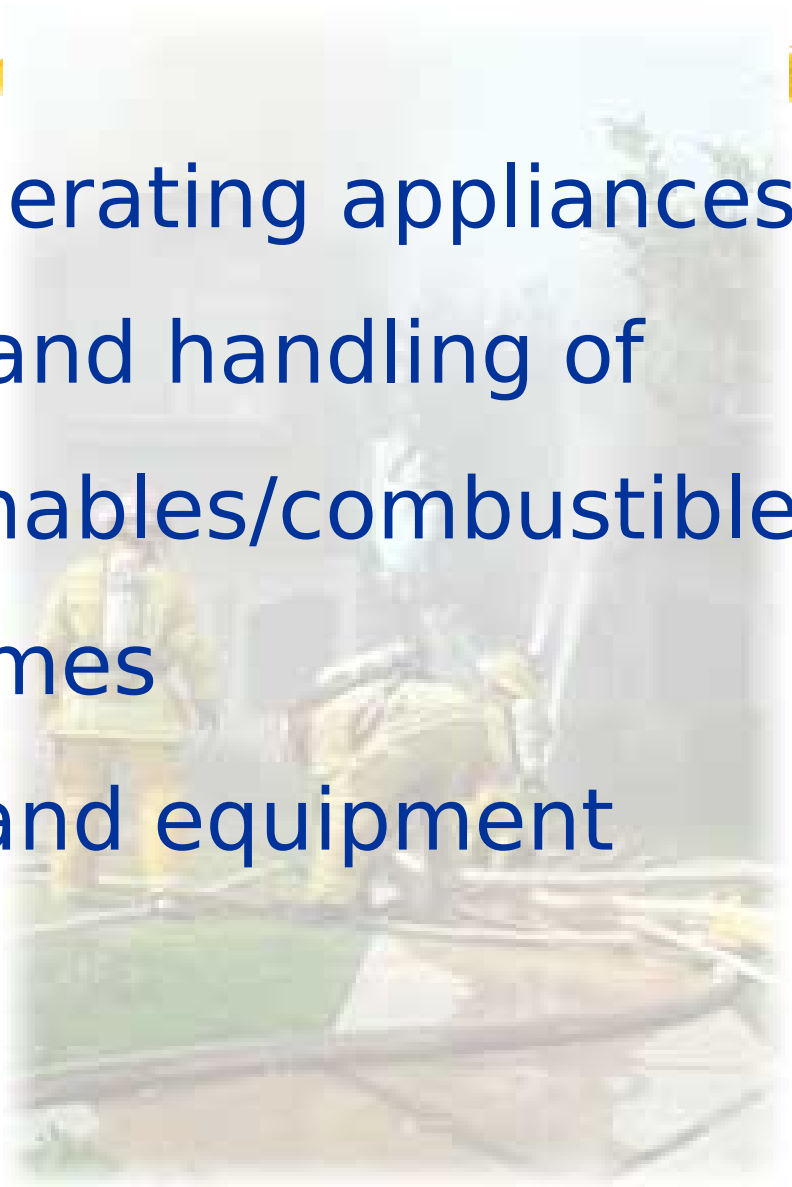
- **Risk Factors For Fire Deaths**
  - Supplemental heating devices- most house fires Dec-Feb
  - Cigarette smoking - 23% of fatal house fires
  - Drug and alcohol abuse - 40% of fire deaths in Philadelphia- Similar Nationally.
  - None or inoperable smoke detectors

Most Fire Deaths are NOT Burn Victims!

- **Causes of Death in Fires - SMOKE**
  - Hydrogen cyanide,
  - Carbon monoxide
  - Other toxic vapors
  - Burns
  - Trauma (non-burn).

Fire Hazards at Work

- Heat generating appliances
- Storage and handling of flammables/combustibles
- Open flames
- Vehicles and equipment

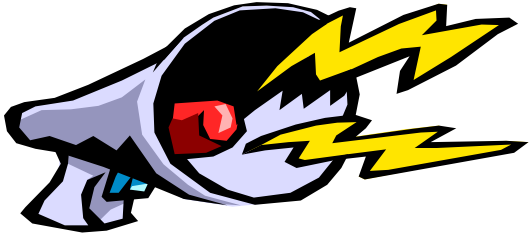


Heat Generating Equipment

- Coffee pot
- Toaster oven
- Microwave
- Mug warmer
- Heaters
- Cooling fans
- Torch/Heat gun
- Other electrical appliances

- Ensure 36” or more of clearance from other combustibles
- UL listed
- Grounding prongs
- Plug into outlet directly
- Heaters need tip-over protection
- Shut it off!

Emergency Action



- How do we report emergencies & get assistance?
- What does the alarm sound like?
- What are the primary & secondary exits?
- Where do we meet?
- Who accounts for us?
- How do we report missing persons?

Causes of Home Fires

- Smoking or smoking materials.
- Heating equipment.
- Cooking & cooking equipment.
- Children playing with matches/lighters.
- Arson/suspicious

What Can YOU Do?

- Educate your children, make them part of your Fire Safety Plan.
- Visit the local firehouse, ask Firefighters to put on gear so your child knows they are not something to fear.

Make Your Home Fire Safe

- Install smoke detectors and change batteries annually.
- Good smoke detectors can be found for $10-15 and a combination smoke and carbon monoxide detector costs less than $50.

Make Your Home Fire Safe

- Have a home evacuation plan and practice it at least yearly.

- Inform your babysitters of your plan.

  Use “Fire Prevention Week” to educate the family.

- Don’t store combustible materials too close to heater, water heater or other source of ignition.

Make Your Home Fire Safe

- Clean out old paint, rags and junk from basement and garage.

- Clean the lint trap in your dryer every time you use it. Use metal vent pipe instead of plastic.

Survive a Fire

- **How to Survive a Fire**
  - **Don’t get trapped**
  - **Cover your mouth and nose with a damp cloth (when possible)**
  - **Keep low to the floor**
  - **Don’t hide**
  - **Be determined to survive**
  - **If clothes catch fire: Stop, Drop and Roll**
  - **Once out of the building NEVER RETURN!**

Fall Checklist

- **Have your furnace and chimney cleaned or inspected yearly**
- **Don’t burn wet or green wood in your fireplace.**
- **Don’t burn leaves near your home or any combustibles.**
- **When using seasonal decorative lighting, turn off when leaving home.**
- **Clean and adjust thermostats.**
- **Check any space heaters for problems, keep 3’ away from combustibles.**